Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set—a pair of eye-catching banners featuring definitions, characteristics, and examples of tall tales, folktale, fairy tales, myths, legends, and fables.

This Really Good Stuff product includes:
- Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set, laminated
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Assembling and Displaying the Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set
Before deciding how you want to use and display the Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set, be sure to make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at www.reallygoodstuff.com. The unique format of this Banner Set allows you to display it in a couple of ways:
- You can leave the Banners in tact and display them together to teach all six types of fanciful tales at the same time.
- Or, you can detach each section along the perforations to create six Mini Posters and display each of the fanciful tales one at a time.

Introducing the Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set
After choosing how you wish to display the Fanciful Tales in Literature Banner Set, gather students around the Banners or the Fanciful Tales Mini Poster you wish to begin with and explain that there are different kinds of fanciful tales in literature. Ask students what they think the word fanciful means and then, if necessary, offer that a fanciful tale is one that is imaginative, exaggerated, and sometimes even magical. Explain that they are going to learn about six types of fanciful tales: Tall tales, folktale, fairy tale, myths, legends, and fables; then use the following activities to introduce each type:

- Telling about Tall Tales
  Before introducing tall tales, secure a copy of the Paul Bunyan story from your school or library and copy the Tall Tales Mini Poster Reproducible. Point to the tall tales section on the Banner, or display the Tall Tales Mini Poster, and explain that tall tales are stories that often feature a larger-than-life character who solves problems in a fantastical way. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of tall tales. Read Paul Bunyan aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a tall tale within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as tall tales and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested tall tales with the class. Start the list with other tall tales, such as Pecos Bill and Thunder Rose. Distribute the Tall Tales Mini Poster Reproducible and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.

- Hearing about Folktale
  Before introducing folktale, secure a copy of a Three Little Pigs story from your school or library and copy the Folktales Mini Poster Reproducible. Point to the folktale section on the Banner, or display the Folktales Mini Poster, and explain that folktale are often anonymous, timeless, and placeless stories circulated orally among people. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of folktale. Read Three Little Pigs aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a folktale within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as folktale and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested folktales with the class. Start
the list with other folktales, such as *Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *Brer Rabbit*. Distribute the *Folktales Mini Poster Reproducible* and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.

### Sharing Fairy Tales

Before introducing fairy tales, secure a copy of a *Jack and the Beanstalk* story from your school or library and copy the *Fairy Tales Mini Poster Reproducible*. Point to the fairy tale section on the Banner, or display the *Fairy Tales Mini Poster*, and explain that fairy tales are often simple stories of humans and their dealings with fantastical forces and beings. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of fairy tales. Read *Jack and the Beanstalk* aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a fairy tale within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as fairy tales and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested fairy tales with the class. Start the list with fairy tales, such as *Cinderella* and *Rumplestiltskin*. Distribute the *Fairy Tales Mini Poster Reproducible* and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.

### Explaining Myths

Before introducing myths, secure a copy of a *Pegasus the Flying Horse* story from your school or library and copy the *Myths Mini Poster Reproducible*. Point to the myth section on the Banner, or display the *Myths Mini Poster*, and explain that myths are often stories that attempt to explain mysteries, supernatural events, and cultural traditions. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of myths. Read the *Pegasus the Flying Horse* story aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a myth within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as myths and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested myths with the class. Start the list with myths, such as *How the Tortoise Got His Shell* and *How the Zebra Got Its Stripes*. Distribute the *Myths Mini Poster Reproducible* and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.

### Learning about Legends

Before introducing legends, secure a copy of a *Robin Hood* story from your school or library and copy the *Legends Mini Poster Reproducible*. Point to the legend section on the Banner, or display the *Legends Mini Poster*, and explain that legends are often unverified stories handed down from earlier times, especially those believed to be historical. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of legends. Read the *Robin Hood* story aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a legend within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as legends and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested legends with the class. Start the list with legends, such as *Casey Jones* and *Bigfoot Wallace*. Distribute the *Legends Mini Poster Reproducible* and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.

### Finding Out about Fables

Before introducing fables, secure a copy of a *The Tortoise and the Hare* story from your school or library and copy the *Fables Mini Poster Reproducible*. Point to the fables section on the Banner, or display the *Fables Mini Poster*, and explain that fables are stories intended to teach a lesson, usually in which animals speak and act like human beings. Read, or have a student read, each bulleted characteristic of fables. Read the *The Tortoise and the Hare* story aloud and tell students to listen for the characteristics of a fable within the story as you read. Have students discuss each characteristic and identify where they heard it in the story. Ask students to think about other stories they know that could be categorized as fables and record their suggestions on the board. Challenge students to read and share some of the suggested fables with the class. Start the list with fables, such as *The Ant and the Grasshopper* and *The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing*. Distribute the *Fables Mini Poster Reproducible* and have students keep their copy in their reading folders for reference.
Tall Tales

Stories that feature a larger-than-life character who solves problems in a fantastical way

Tall Tales often include:

- Larger-than-life or superhuman characters
- Characters who use everyday language
- Problems that are often solved in a humorous way
- Exaggerated details

Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox
Folktales

Folktales often include:

- Anonymous, timeless, and placeless stories circulated orally among a culture
- Characters that are common people or animals
- Explanations to help with common daily struggles
- Sets of three characters, tasks, or events
- Happy endings

The Three Little Pigs
Fairy Tales

Simple stories of humans and their dealings with fantastical forces and beings

Fairy Tales often include:

- Special beginnings and endings, such as, once upon a time and they lived happily ever after
- Good and evil characters
- A problem and solution
- Royalty or magical beings

Rapunzel
Myths

Stories that attempt to explain mysteries, supernatural events, and cultural traditions

Myths often include:

- Superhuman gods and goddesses or heroes
- An explanation or lesson about a supposed historical or natural event
- Magic or metamorphosis

Pegasus, the Flying Horse
Legends

Unverified stories handed down from earlier times, especially those believed to be historical

Legends often include:

- Human characters who perform superhuman deeds
- Recognizable times and places from the past
- Events that become more exaggerated each time they are told

The Tales of Robin Hood
Fables

Stories intended to teach a lesson, often in which animals speak and act like human beings

**Fables often include:**

- Animals as main characters
- Simple characters and plot
- Personification
- A moral or lesson

**The Tortoise and the Hare**